

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

WETZELS et al

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Group:

National Phase of: **PCT/NL2003/000756**

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Examiner:

For: **METHOD FOR SPLICING A LAID ROPE**

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April 26, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: